

# **CURRENT STATUS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL MATERIALS PROGRAM WORKING GROUP**

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**PRESENTED TO REGION IV  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2000**

# Overview of Agreement State Expansion

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1959: AEA amended with Section 274

1962: First Agreement State (Kentucky)

1971: Twenty-Third Agreement State (Maryland)  
50% of Material Licensees in Agreement States

1999: Thirty-First Agreement State (Ohio)  
75% of Material Licensees in Agreement States

2003: Thirty-Five Agreement States (?)  
>80% of Material Licensees in Agreement States

# Why a National Materials Program now?

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- g Most licenses issued by Agreement States
- g Shrinking NRC fees base
- g Need to optimize use of remaining resources
- g Increased use of Agreement State expertise
- g Common performance indicators

# Who are the Regulatory Stakeholders?

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- g NRC Staff at Program and Regional Offices
- g State Staffs (Agreement and Non-Agreement States)
- g Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors Inc. (CRCPD)
- g Organizations of Agreement States (OAS)

# Direction Given to Working Group

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- g SECY-99-250 states “No clear definition has been established to define what is meant by a National Materials Program.”
- g Key issues in SECY-99-250
  1. Mission statement
  2. Delineation of roles for NRC, Agreement States, CRCPD and OAS
  3. Scope of activities covered by NMP and need for statutory changes
  4. Formal program coordination mechanisms
  5. Performance indicators and assessment process
  6. Budgeting of resources at State and Federal levels
- g Focus on functional, not organizational changes
- g Not limited to AEA material
- g Steering Committee added

# National Materials Program Working Group Charter (mission)

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To create a true partnership of the NRC and the States that will ensure protection of public health, safety, and the environment while:

- g optimizing resources of Federal, State, professional and industrial organizations;
- g accounting for individual agency needs and abilities;
- g promoting consensus on regulatory priorities;
- g promoting consistent exchange of information; and
- g harmonizing regulatory approaches while recognizing state and federal needs for flexibility.

# National Materials Program Working Group Charter (issues)

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- g Six issues from SECY paper plus
- g The continuing trend for States to assume authority for the regulation of radioactive materials;
- g The potential impact of this trend on maintaining the infrastructure of the existing State and Federal regulatory programs in the current fiscal environment and the increased fee burden on a decreasing number of NRC licensees to support generic activities;
- g Accommodation of Federal and State strategic performance goals and outcomes under a national materials program.

# Development of the Product

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- g Bottom-Up Rather Than Top-Down Approach
- g Essential Elements of Program Identified  
(CRCPD and IMPEP Program Elements)
- g Identify Options for How Each Element Could be Implemented
- g Evaluate Screening Process Options Against Established Criteria
- g Identify Attributes
- g Consider Structures Available to Implement Options
- g Obtain Stakeholder Input
- g Recommend Changes to Commission



# Overall Screening Process

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- g Develop Options for Program Elements
- g Identify Existing Methods for Accomplishing Goal
- g Identify Alternative Methods for Accomplishing Goal
- g Eliminate Any Options That Don't Ensure Protection of Health & Safety and Environment (i.e., Consistent with NRC Strategic Goals)
- g Screen Options
- g Identify Common Attributes of Preferred Options

# Detailed Screening Process

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## Initial Evaluation Criteria

- g Does It Optimize Resources?
- g Does It Account For Individual Agency Needs/Abilities?
- g Does It Promote Consensus On Regulatory Priorities?
- g Does It Promote Consistent Exchange of Information?
- g Does It Harmonize Regulatory Approaches?
- g Does It Recognize Need For State and Federal Program Flexibility?

Each Option Is Evaluated Against Criteria and Weighted As Being Better Or Worse Than Existing Methods

# Program Element Example: Materials Licensing Guidance (options)

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1. No change from current.
2. NRC/AS jointly develop an agenda and priorities for developing licensing guidance and establish joint working groups to develop guidance.
3. NRC/AS jointly develop an agenda and priorities for developing licensing guidance and provide direction to an independent entity (CRCPD, ICRP, NCRP, HPS, professional organizations, etc.) that would develop the guidance documents.
4. No coordination between NRC and AS; NRC and individual AS develop guidance based on determined needs, including developing no guidance.
5. NRC/AS accept consensus standards for licensing guidance without further evaluation.

# **Program Element Example: Material Licensing Guidance (recommendations)**

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NRC/AS jointly develop an agenda and priorities for developing licensing guidance. NRC/AS either use working groups to develop guidance or direct other organizations/entities to develop guidance when appropriate.

# National Materials Program Structural Concepts

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- g Identify Functional Responsibilities
- g Identify Interorganizational Relationships
  - Consultative (current)
  - Advisory
  - Alliance (consensus)
  - Autonomy
- g Identify Structure
- g Identify Functions

# Alliance Concept

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g Pros and Cons

g Functional Responsibilities

- facilitation

- direction

- oversight

g Structure and Operation

- consensus on regulatory priorities

- identify and update Centers of Expertise

- identify alternative resources

- recognize current successes

- define and make assignments

- identify committed volunteers

- evaluate progress on previous assignments

# Alliance Concept (continued)

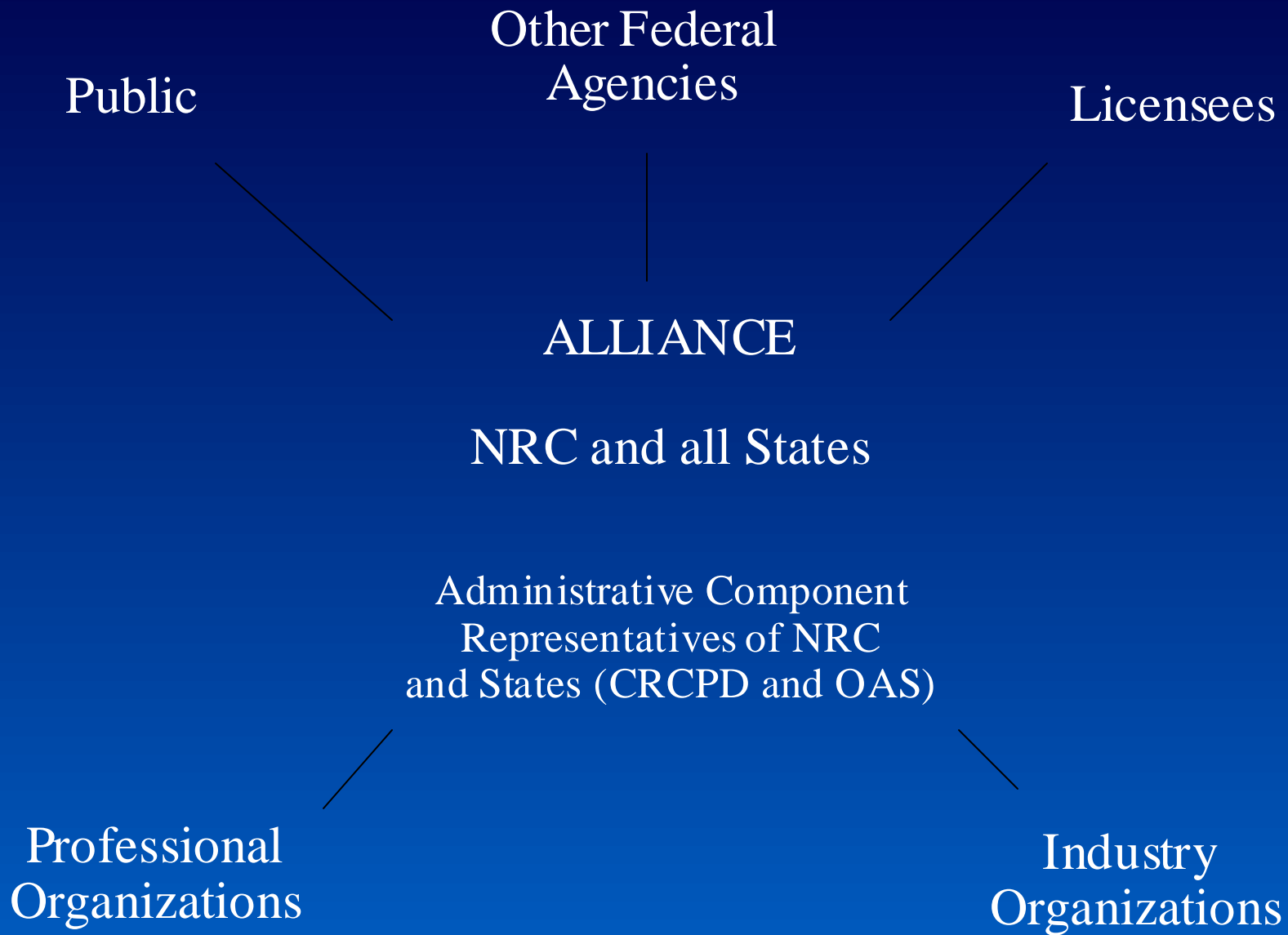
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## g Administrative Component

- clearinghouse

- track and report progress of assignments to Alliance

- planning and facilitation of Alliance meetings





# Future Evaluation Criteria

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## Potential Evaluation Criteria for Screening of Alliance Concept

- g Is Alliance Consistent With IMPEP/CRCPD Program Goals?
- g What Are The Cost Implications?
- g What Are The Potential Impacts On Licensees?
- g Are Statute Changes Required?
- g Are Changes In Regulations Required?
- g Are MOUs or Equivalent Required Between Regulatory Agencies?

# Product Development Milestones

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March - September 2000:

Develop Program Elements and Options

September - December 2000:

Draft Recommendations for National Materials Program

December 2000 - January 2001 :

Issue Draft Recommendations for Stakeholder Comment (State, NRC, Licensees, Industry, Members of Public)

February 2001:

Close Comment Period

March - April 2001:

Resolve Comments and Review Final Product With Steering Committee

May 2001:

Final Product Due to Commission

# Meeting Schedule

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March 6-8, 2000, NRC HQ	Working Group
April 10-12, 2000, NRC RIV	Working Group
May 15-17, 2000, CRCPD	Poster Session and State Interface
June 5-7, 2000, Denver, CO	Working Group
June 14, 2000, NRC HQ	Steering Committee Briefing
August 21, 2000	Steering Committee Briefing
August 22-24, 2000, NRC HQ	Working Group
August 24, 2000, NRC HQ	Technical Assistants Briefing
September 12-14, 2000, NRC RIII	Working Group
October 2-5, 2000, OAS	Table-top Exercise with States and NRC, Working Group Meeting following OAS
October 2000	Steering Committee
	Technical Assistants Briefing (?)
December 5-7, 2000, Austin, TX	Working Group
March 2001, Atlanta, GA	Working Group
April 2001	Working Group -Steering Committee

# Stakeholder Outreach

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- gCommunication Plan

- gPoster Session at CRCPD Annual Meeting (May 2000)

- gStakeholder Briefings

  - NRC Standard Developing Organization (July 2000)

  - NRC Regions and Headquarters (July-September 2000)

  - South Texas Chapter HPS (November 11, 2000)

  - NERHC (November 14-17, 2000)

- gTabletop Exercise at OAS Annual Meeting (October 2000)

- gFocus Groups with Professional/Industry and Public

- gWeb Site (<http://www.hsrdo.org/nrc/materials.html>)

- gSend comments to any Working Group member

# Feedback Questions

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- g How do you feel about NRC concurring with State on regulatory priorities?
- g Are there any other options or models for a National Materials Program that the Working Group overlooked?
- g How would you identify Centers of Expertise?
- g Does the NRC need a “lead” function?
- g Should the National Materials Program be a regulatory function?
- g As we continue to work through this project, how can we best exchange information with you, our internal stakeholders?

# Working Group Members

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## Co-Chairs

Kathy Allen (OAS-IL)

Jim Myers (NRC-OSTP)

## Members

Carol Abbott (NRC-OCFO)

Chip Cameron (NRC-OGC)

Cindy Cardwell (CRCPD-TX)

Joe DeCicco (NRC-NMSS)

Elizabeth Drinnon (CRCPD-GA)

Tom Hill (OAS-GA)

Linda Howell (NRC-RIV)

Jake Jacobi (OAS-CO)

Bob Walker (CRCPD-MA)

Duncan White (NRC-RI)

## Advisor

Fred Combs (NRC-OSTP)

# Steering Group Members

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Ed Bailey (OAS - California)

Doug Collins (NRC - Region II)

Don Cool (NRC - NMSS)

Joe Gray (NRC - OGC)

Bob Hallisey (CRCPD - Massachusetts)

Bill Kane (NRC - NMSS)

Paul Lohaus (NRC - OSTP)

Carl Paperiello, Chair (NRC - DEDO)

Cindy Pederson (NRC - Region III)